Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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FOR USDOC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP, BL

SUBJECT: TEXTILE TRADE MISSION, VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, AND

BRAZIL, JUNE, 1974

1. ACTION REQUESTED: INCLUDE BOLIVIA IN ITINERARY OF ABOVE TEXTILE MISSION. THOUGH BOLIVIA DOES NOT HAVE INDUSTRY AS LARGE

AS COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, AND BRAZIL, ITS INDUSTRY IS PRESENTLY

OPERATING AT CLOSE TO 100 PERCENT CAPACITY WITH MOST COMPANIES

CARRYING OUT AND PLANNING EXPANSION. THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND THE

MISSION RETURN FROM BRAZIL VIA LA PAZ.

2. TEXTILE INDUSTRY IS A FOLLOWS:

NAME OF FIRM EMPLOYS MANUFACTURES SALES

MANUFACTURAS DE TEXTILES AND

ALGODON, S.A. 1,016 COTTON THREADS 2,850,000

LANIFICIO BOLIVIANO WOOL BROAD,

DOMINGO SOLIGNO S.A. 735 WOVEN FABRICS 1,500,000

WOOL BLANKETS

MEN SUITINGS

MANUFACTURAS COTTON FABRICS

TEXTILES FORNO S.A. 490 WOOLEN FABRICS 1,000,000

BLANKETS

ACRYLIC FABRICS

SOCIEDAD NACIONAL

TEXTIL S.A. 257 COTTON YARNS 770,000

ESTABLECIMIENTOS COTTON FABRICS

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TEXTILES ESTATEX S.A. 169 NYLON FABRICS 1,200,000

RAYON FABRICS

POLYESTER FABRICS

TEXTILES ASOCIADOS 160 WEAVING SYNTHETICS

S.A. FABRICS 650,000

FABRICA DE TEJIDOS COTTON FABRICS

JACQUARD FATEJA S.A. 109 FIBER AND SILK 800,000

TEXTILE FABRICS

BROCADES

INDUSTRIAS SILESIA 72 MEN'S HOSIERY

WOMEN'S STOCKINGS, 600,000

SHIRTS

TEXTILES ORIENTALES COTTON CLOTHS 268,000

S.A. 110 TEXTILE BAGS

COMBOFLA WOOL TOPS, FUR

(GOB WHOLLY OWNED) 101 CLOTHING 200,000

IN ADDITION, GROUP OF SANTA CRUZ BUSINESSMEN HAVE FORMED A NEW

FIRM (HILADOS Y TEJIDOS SANTA CRUZ, S.A.) TO PRODUCE YARN. THEY

ESTIMATE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE OF \$3.5 MILLION. PART OF THE YARN

OUTPUT WILL BE USED TO MANUFACTURE 3,000,000 BAGS YEARLY TO

STORE RICE, SUGAR, CORN, ETC. MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA FIRM (WE HAVE

BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN NAME) WAS CONTRACTED TO PERFORM FEASIBILTY

STUDY. WE RECOMMEND THAT MEDELLIN LOCAL BRANCH OF BANK OF

AMERICA BE CONTACTED TO OBTAIN COMPANY'S NAME SO THAT MISSION

MEMBERS CAN DISCUSS SANTA CRUZ PROJECT. NEW SANTA CRUZ COMPANY TO

SIGN CONTRACT ON MAY 10, WITH MEDELLIN COMPANY WHICH WILL

PROCEED WITH EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AND FINAL PLANT DESIGN. SANTA

CRUZ GROUP STILL INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING EQUIPMENT REQUIRE-

MENTS.

GOB IS PLANNING SECOND YARN PLANT IN SANTA CRUZ COSTING UN-

CONFIRMED \$US 15 MILLION. THIS PROJECT IS BEING FINANCED UNDER

US\$25 MILLION BANK OF AMERICA LOAN TO GOB WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL

RELEND TO CORPORACION BOLIVIANA DE FOMENTO (C.B.F.) WILL ARRANGE MEETINGS FOR MISSION MEMBERS WITH CBF.

3. BOLIVIA IS AN EXPORTER OF COTTON. PROJECTED PLANTS WOULD

PROCESS THIS RAW MATERIAL. THE SANTA CRUZ AREA PRODUCES VIRTU-

ALLY ALL BOLIVIAN COTTON AS FOLLOWS:

PERIOD HECTARES# (100 LBS. UNITS)

1952/53 200 572

1958/59 1,000 15,000

1968/69 6,000 90,000

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1969/70 8,500 120,000

1970/71 17,600 228,000

1971/72 47,000 335,000

1972/73## 60,000 900,000 # 10,000 SQ. METERS PER HECTARE.

ESTIMATED

NOTE: THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OF BOTH HECTARES AND OUTPUT

FROM THE PERIOD 1968/69 TO 1972/73 WAS 900 PERCENT OR A

YEARLY AVERAGE OF 58.5 PERCENT (COMPOUNDED). EXPANSION IS STILL IN MOTION.

4. STATISTICS ON THE IMPORTATION OF TEXTILE MACHINERY IS NOT CURRENT. THE LATEST TWO YEARS AVAILABLE REFLECT IMPORTS OF:

TOTAL(CIF) TOTAL (CIF)

WORLD USA#
1970 833.1 490.1
1971 745.9 530.6
U.S. \$(000)

5. THOUGH THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE RELATIVELY LOW OUR INTER-

VIEWS WITH THE LA PAZ COMPANIES LISTED IN PARAGRAPH NO. $2\,$

INDICATE SEVEN OUT OF NINE COMPANIES INTEND TO EXPAND THEIR

OPERATIONS. AS PRODUCTION OF COTTON INCREASES, NEW COMPANIES WILL

BE FORMED TO PROCESS YARN AND AS THE PRESENT LA PAZ FIRMS ARE

OPERATING AT CLOSE TO 100 PERCENT THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN

THE IMPORTATION OF TEXTILE MACHINERY OF SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS(US).

 ${\bf 6.}$ ALL COMPANIES INTERVIEWED EXPRESSED INTEREST IN NEW TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY.

7. AS MOST BOLIVIAN TEXTILE ENGINEERS ARE EUROPEAN EDUCATED AND EQUIPMENT ORIENTED, THE MISSION WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO DEVELOP US INTERESTS.

 $8. \ \, ALL$ COMPANIES EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DISCUSSING THEIR EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS WITH MISSION MEMBERS. STEDMAN

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